

Cracklin' Static

May 2020 Edition



**Breakfast
meeting
VIA ZOOM
See page 4....**

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesday 8pm
DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

SNARS Treasury Closing Balances

Account as of 4/26/2020

Operating	\$5,595
Savings	\$9,712
Self Insurance	\$7,698
PayPal	\$1,632
Convention	\$4,295

Total \$28,932

Net Monthly \$318
Net YTD \$715

Renewals 31

SNARS Membership as of 4-26: 383

Extra	130	34%
General	120	31%
Technician	111	29%
Advanced	13	3%
No License	0	0%
License Expired	2	1%
Novice	1	0%

SNARS ARRL Members

Regular	215	56%
Life	37	10%

PRESIDENT'S VOICE

President John Byerly, N7ROJ

Email: mtnlion@gmail.com



President's voice

Hello and I hope this finds everyone healthy and as well as you can be.

Lots of time to get on the air and it's a nice distraction from our "new normal".

Since it appears we cannot have a meeting in person the next month, Barry Bettman K6ST is going to administer a virtual meeting using Zoom meetings. Be sure you sign up for it and we will do our best to have a good meeting.

73, John N7ROJ



PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510
 Yearly Dues: \$40.00 Individual • \$50.00 Family
 775.453.4142 <http://snars.org>

2020 Officers

President.....John Byerly, N7ROJ
 Vice-President.....John Miller N7JDM
 Treasurer.....Bill Jones, AE7OX
 Secretary.....Anthony Marcin, W7XM
 DirectorWes Vick, KG7QXE
 DirectorJim Shepherd, W6US
 DirectorBarry Bettman, K6ST

2020 Staff

Cracklin StaticHowie Holden, WB2AWQ
 W7TA TrusteePeter DeBay, KE7VSR
 KR7ENO Trustee.....Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
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 Youth Involvement.....Barry Bettman K6ST
 NVQSO Coordinator.....Jim Shepherd, W6US
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 Tech Team LeadPat Sheehan, W7DED
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 PIOGreg Krantz, NT7Q
 VE Coordinator.....Bill Nichols, NN7K
 Meeting GreeterBill Jones, AE7OX
 Noon Net ManagerWes Vick, KG7QXE
 DMR Net ManagerAnthony Marcin, W7XM
 Reno Ham SwapVacant
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Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden WB2AWQ - holden7471@msn.com

Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Published the week before meetings. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size, line spacing or other tools as may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + PL 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
146.925 -?L 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	Online
146.670 -?L 123.0	Winnemucca	Online
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	Online
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks	Offline

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	Online
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	Online
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	Online
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	Online
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	Offline

Fusion Systems

146.610 - PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
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IRLP / EchoLink Systems

147.300 + PL 123.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
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Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee. Carson	Online
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	Online

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online

Online
 Offline
 Not Linked

Thank you to our Sponsors/Supporters



Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123 – Sparks/Fernley
 147.150 + PL123.0 – Lake Tahoe / Truckee
 147.210 + PL 100.0 - Reno
 444.875 + PL 100.0 - Yerington
 146.925 - 123.0 – Lovelock / Fallon
 146.67 – PL 123.0 - Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Radio Checks and Questions are welcomed.

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
 147.670 – 123.0 | 146.925 – 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

ERC Net for NV and Northern CA	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Thursday at 7:30pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on IRLP (GSR) System

Repeater: 147.300 + 123.0

Amateur Radio Newslane	Monday - 8:00PM
Nevada Skywarn Net	Wednesday - 7:00pm
Nevada State ARES Net	Thursday - 7:00PM

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday – 8:00pm
2 Meter Weak Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday – 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday – 2:00PM

**SNARS Weekly DMR Net – Tuesdays
 8:00PM**

SNARS Talk Group 31328

Open to Members and Guests. A general information net each week on DMR.

SNARS CALENDAR

**Ham Radio Night at the REOC Wednesday, May 6 is
 CANCELLED**

**QCWA Nevada Chapter Meeting May 9 status unknown
 check with: <https://www.qcwa.org/chapter190.htm>**

**SNARS Board Meeting Wednesday May 13
 Being held virtually on Zoom**

**One Day Ham Review scheduled for May 16 has been POST-
 PONED till June 20**

**Next SNARS Breakfast Meeting – Saturday June 6,
 8 AM Boomtown Casino Hotel Events Center I-80 at
 Exit 4, Verdi *Tentative depending on local lockdowns.***

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS April 2020

Sam	Drake	KM6CZX
Bryce	Leinan	KI7NIK
Jacob	Smalser	WU7ANG
Robert	Palmer	NV7P
John	Reed	KJ7NDZ
Scott	Brink	KC7STV
Rebecca	Brink	KE7CKY
Gary	Muhone	W7GMM
Sher	Muhonen	W7SHR
Lynelle	Tyler	KJ7IHQ

SNARS Virtual Monthly Meeting

5-2-2020 8:00a PDT



7QP - 7th Call Area QSO Party (live on the air demo)

This month we will be having the SNARS Meeting virtually on zoom teleconferencing.

To register, click on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0vc-yurjwuGNznJNoB1NmLqDq2SStaXRLS>

You will then receive an email with the details about the virtual meeting and how to get onto zoom teleconferencing. Please come on 15 minute before at 7:45a PT Saturday May 2nd to meet and greet others.

Any questions, email k6st@arrl.net

PLEASE NOTE!

The May BBQ at Bartley Ranch is cancelled!

Stay tuned for possible rescheduling!

THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd, W6US nvjims@gmail.com

SOCIAL DISTANCING AND HAM RADIO

There is one bright spot in this Covid19 situation, with lots of free time at home, the activity on the bands has increased. Lots of you have taken to the airwaves to have extended conversations, to make new friends, and keep in touch with old ones.

While most of the major DXpeditions have been cancelled, there are still lots of operators who are in the same conditions that you are except they live in other countries. Here is the chance to make DX contacts with more than just a signal report and a spot in the log. Time for a fun discussion about local sites, area history, or other topics that will cause you to remember the 10 minute rule for sending your call sign. If you are able to speak a foreign language, here is a good chance to improve your skills with a native speaker, and their opportunity to use more English than the usual '59' and phonetics...

Locally, there has been a definite increase in the use of all of the repeaters. The 'stand-alone' repeaters like the 146.61, 147.39, 443.075, etc. are seeing lots of good 'ragchew' contacts on lots of different topics. If you are just going to talk with someone across town, these are good repeaters to use and avoid tying up the linked system.

Since most of the Ham Swaps have been cancelled for the foreseeable future, on-the-air ones like the ones found at <http://www.af4k.com/mega/swapnets.htm> can let you find that new addition to the shack or sell that dust collecting boat anchor. There are also sites on the internet that cater to the redistribution of used ham equipment.

Participation in various nets on both HF and the VHF/UHF bands has also increased. Nets that used to take 15 minutes are stretching out to over an hour due to the numbers of participants. Each net has its own procedures, so listen carefully and tailor your operation to fit that net's parameters. On the repeater nets, most expect you to have a solid signal with full audio in order to participate. Last Friday, on 2 different nets, I 'heard' 9 different operators with exceeding low audio that caused multiple repeats. If your voice level on the repeater is less than the courtesy tones or IDer, your transmitted audio level is too low. Major causes of this are whispering into your radio or holding it too far away from your mouth.

Your power should be set so that the repeater does not drop out while you

are talking, and for handhelds that means high power and holding the radio so the antenna is vertical. Listen to most of the NCS and regular members who have constantly loud and clear signals, and you should sound the same way.

Don, W7SSB, and Howie, WB2AWQ, have been doing an excellent job sending out MiniStatics with lots of information and links to keep you busy learning more about ham radio. There are enough ham radio videos on YouTube to almost eclipse the offerings on Netflix. Some are very good and some not so good, but all may have some value. There are lots of publications out there and the ARRL has just opened up all the issues of QEX and NCJ to members to read free on their website. QEX is devoted to the technical end of the hobby and NCJ covers the contesting world.

Building kits and interfacing computers or controllers like the Raspberry Pi and Arduino units can be a great learning experience. I have a bunch of homebrew stuff and kits in use around the station. You can even build entire radios from kits and learn a lot in the process. Your budding antenna farm can also be extended with new wire antennas, some plumber's delight ones, and improved grounding and radial fields with very little expenditures of time and money.

Try a new digital mode like FT8 or meteor scatter. In last week's MiniStatic, this link https://www.g4ifb.com/FT8_Hinson_tips_for_HF_DXers.pdf is an excellent source of information on using FT8. The WSJTX program will also let you do meteor scatter contacts on 10 meters and the VHF bands. Set your rig on half a watt and use the WSPR mode for a day or so and you will be amazed at who will hear that signal around the world. You can see the contacts at <http://wsprnet.org/drupal/wsprnet/map>

There are so many things to do with ham radio that beat seeing Top Gun on Netflix or reruns of Gilligan's Island on tv. You can even head for the boonies and activate one of the cow counties for the 7QP this Saturday—so far no one has signed up for the northeastern counties here in Nevada.

SNARS LOGO ITEMS

This year we are celebrating our 50th year by providing many ways to commemorate this occasion by imprinting our 50th



Stickers \$1.00 Each



16oz Coffee Mugs \$8.00



Hats \$10.00



Club Badge \$15.00

Order at
<http://snars.org/store/badge-order>

Items are available at the monthly meetings, events or online (coming soon) <http://snars.org/store>

MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER FIFTY

Mike Katz, N7MSK

PART 97 – Prohibited Communications

Certain communications are always prohibited [97.113(a)(4)]. You may never intentionally transmit music or obscene or indecent words or language on the amateur frequencies. You must not use the amateur frequencies in connection with any criminal activity. You may not transmit information via Amateur Radio in a code or cipher that obscures or hides the meaning of a transmission. Falsely or deceptively message s or station identification are also prohibited. These prohibitions are clear and precise, and the FCC seriously enforces them. You are never allowed to use the amateur service for business communications. [

Communications, on a regular basis, that could be reasonably be furnished using another radio service are also prohibited [97.113(a)(5)]. For example you might help out your local firefighters during an emergency, but they need to rely on authorized public safety frequencies and radios for their day-to-day operations.

SHORT TAKES (By Jim Shepherd W6US)

HAM RADIO NIGHT, FIRST WEDNESDAY, May 6, 2020 has been CANCELLED due to the REOC being activated and for everyone's health and safety during the Covid19 Pandemic. The June event may also be cancelled—we don't know at this time. We are looking at making some videos available and that will be posted on the SNARS website. The first one is Contesting 101 at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrRfkbj8aRmYZCPrnzUDeQ>

CONTEST CALENDAR There are a bunch of contests this month. They range from the His Majesty King of Spain CW contest on May 16th to the CQ CW WW WPX contest the last weekend of the month. A large number of states are having QSO parties, including four at the same time as the 7QP. The 7QP this coming weekend is covered in another article in this issue. You can get the full information at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

DX There are only a couple of listed DXpeditions this month and they may be cancelled. There are lots of other stations who might be on the air from their home QTH operating as they are in the same situation that we are with Covid19. More information can be found at <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

PONY EXPRESS RE-RIDE 2020 (so far it has not been cancelled)

The 2020 Pony Express Re-ride will be June 3-13 this year and it is eastbound from Sacramento to St. Joseph, MO. With all of the mountain ranges here in Nevada, there is a need for a bunch of operators to handle communications. You will need to use HF, VHF and UHF gear out in the field to be able to help. It will usually require camping out at least overnight during the day or 2 that you will be needed here in Nevada. If you are interested in helping, contact Tom Tobacco, KE7NCJ at his email address smokey@pyramid.net for further information and needed locations for help. A schedule and more information on the Re-Ride can be found at <https://nationalponyexpress.org/annual-re-ride/ham/>



NAME THAT RIG

(Answer on page 13)



7TH AREA QSO PARTY

The 7QP is an amateur radio QSO party, held annually on the first Saturday in May. That's May 2 this year. The stations of the US 7th call area (Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) become "the pursued", and the rest of the US, Canada and the world tries to work as many of us here in the 7th call area, on as many bands/modes as possible, over an 18-hour period commencing at 6:00am PDT (1300 UTC).

Operate from home, mobile or dust off the Field Day gear and get on the air from a rare county or a county line where you can operate from two or more counties at once and get extra points! There are 54 multi county locations in Nevada not counting stateline locations with the other 7th area states. Please plan on making a few or a whole bunch of contacts, just be sure to mark May 3 on your calendar!

As of Saturday night, nobody has signed up for Carson City, Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, and White Pine counties. Most of the rest of the other counties only have one or 2 hams signed up. There are 3 ways to make contacts, SSB contacts count 1 point, CW count 2 points and Digital (PSK31 and RTTY) count 4 points. This points out a real need for CW and Digital operators in all counties!!!

If you plan to participate, even for a little while, please do two things. First, you can see the activity on the [Planned Operations](#) tab on the

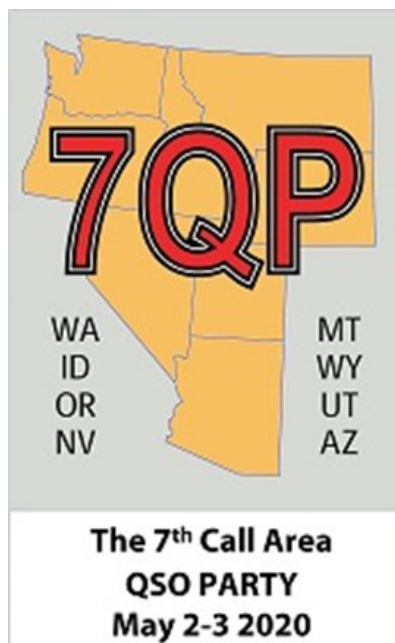
7QP page. Then, send your projected operation location(s) to 7qpops@codxc.org with a cc to nvjims@gmail.com giving them information on modes and if you will be a mobile (rover) station. That way we can track the counties that will be covered and we can try to find someone to go out to the counties that are not. Even if the county is covered, digital and CW operators are encouraged to also go out there... Second, email them a copy of your log when you are finished. Either Cabrillo

(preferred) or a plain text format will work. Your log helps them score the contest and automatically enters you – no summary sheet required for email entries. See their webpage for more information on uploading your log.

The exchange is easy... Just give a '59' (or 599.....ed!) signal report and if you are operating in the 7 call zone, your county code. For Washoe, it is NVWAS, for Storey, it is NVSTO... If you are outside of the 7 call zone, you give a '59' (or

599...) signal report and your 2 digit state abbreviation. There are special rules for county line stations, and you may get a report from one of the eastern states that are also having a QSO party. See the complete rules on their website at <http://ws7n.net/7qp/new/Page.asp?Content=start> for more information and a full list of county abbreviations.

This is a fun contest and those of us in the 7th call zone are the wanted "rare DX" and will make lots of contacts if you get on the air and participate!



W7SSB's FUN STUFF

WHAT HAPPENED TO MOTOROLA?

I didn't realize all the contributions to communications that Motorola was a pioneer in! The once great company has been broken up piece by piece sold off. Here is a brief history and watch the attached Youtube videos for more detailed info On September 25, 1928, Paul V Galvin and his brother, Joseph, incorporated Motorola's founding company—the Galvin Manufacturing Corporation—in Chicago, Illinois, USA. Following the introduction of a car radio in the early 1930s, the company created the Motorola brand.

The company has been involved in military communications during the 1940s, and the Nasa Apollo Moon mission. In 1979, it launched the MC68000 hybrid 16/32-bit microprocessor that later powered the first Apple Macintosh and Atari and Amiga home computers. It also launched the world's first mobile phone in 1983.

On January 4, 2011, Motorola separated into two independent, publicly-traded companies: Motorola Solutions and Motorola Mobility. Motorola Solutions (NYSE:MSI) provided mission-critical communication products and services for enterprise and government customers. On February 19, 2016, Motorola Solutions announced it had completed acquisition of Airwave in the United Kingdom. Airwave, the largest private operator of a public safety network in the world, Motorola Mobility made mobile cellular devices and cable video management equipment and was acquired by Google for \$12.5 bn in 2011. The company was subsequently sold to Lenovo in 2014 for \$2.5bn. Please take a look at the attached video. you will be surprised at all the firsts Motorola had

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1b_YDHHE1PE

<https://www.chicagomag.com/Chicago-Magazine/September-2014/What-Happened-to-Motorola/>

Knowing and understanding our communications companies history we can better understand where we are today with the products we take for granted we use !

MFJ

Build Your Own!

Sometimes you just feel the need to play while you work, have some real antenna fun and build your own antenna projects. You've come to the right source to get the job done in an inexpensive way.

MFJ has thousands of parts used to help build antennas. We welcome you new inventors to take flight and dream the next BIG thing!

The Dogbone



The MFJ 16C01 Glazed ceramic center/end insulator is an essential part of antenna building.

MFJ's dogbone is extra strong -- it won't break with long antennas and won't arc over or melt even under full legal limit.

Molded ridges give an extra long path to prevent high-voltage breakdown. Use for dipoles, doublets, G5RVs, guy wires, vees.

The Center Insulator

The MFJ-16D01 is made of tough fiberglass, holds steady 450 Ohm ladder line with a double-weave stress-relief. Strong wire tie points. Hang hole for inverted vees.



The End Insulator

Two pack is for multi-band doublet antenna building. 7-inch, heavily serrated end insulators with 5/16" holes. Aluminum tube inserts in end holes for maximum loads.



Antenna Wire

Ladder line, twin lead, copper wire, installation rope. 50 feet, 100 feet and 250 feet in ladder line and twin lead; 100 feet and 250 feet in flexible 7-strand #14 copper wire; and 100 feet and 250 feet in nylon or polyester rope. Excellent pricing, fantastic service!



Deluxe Dipole Antenna Kit

Or how about an entire kit of parts needed to make a dipole antenna?



Get three multi-purpose center insulators, 100 feet of 1/8" nylon rope, copper wire, two PL-259 connectors, two RG-58 reducers, SO-239 connector, stainless steel screws and nuts, and six ceramic insulators.

Make G5RV, doublet or dipole antennas

We are your source for ground rods, baluns, tripods, masts and more!

MFJ has it all! And when we say all, we mean ALL!

ALL the parts you could possibly need are here to build the next great antenna project.



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When you got an antenna project MFJ is your one-stop Antenna Parts Superstore!!!

www.mfjenterprises.com

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TEL: 662-323-5869 Toll-Free 800-647-1800

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

A Family of NEV's

K5NEV, K4NEV, K3NEV



**K5NEV Brian operating on the Sunday 2p PT
10 Meter net 28.350 USB**

I became a ham radio operator in 2016, and what really helped me get into the hobby of amateur radio was my dad. My dad, Jim (K4NEV) has his Amateur radio technician and also has GMRS license as a young kid, my dad would let me talk on GMRS. When I got old enough to help do the electronics part of it in 2014; I and my dad made a repeater for GMARS, so we could cover more of distance. I also would listen to him check into amateur radio nets on the ham radio and talk on the radio, My dad explained to me about ham radio repeaters and how they work and also how far, they can get and more coverage distance than GMRS so I started studying for my ham radio amateur radio technician class license. My dad bought me a Gordon West technician License book and I read the book starting at the end of 2015. What was the big drive to get my technician license was talking on GMRS. We talked on the radio, and even with the repeater, we didn't have a long-range of coverage. One night, I was listening to my dad K4NEV check into a Net and there were people checking into the net from Dayton Nevada, Quincy California, Portola California, and other areas on the SNARS linked Repeater system I thought that was really cool. Even as a young kid, I would be with my dad and like to listen and watch my dad talk on the radio. I would always be with my dad when he was talking on the ham radio.



Home Made 10-meter wire antenna

I was always fascinated by the radio with him when he is checking into the nets or talking on the radios, or even when we go camping and he'll be on the ham radio make contacts or see if we could hit a repeater from where we were camping that was always fun. In 2016 when I got my amateur license technician ticket, The same person that signed my dad's technician license ticket over 20 years ago signed my Ticket his name is Bill (NN7K) I thought that was the coolest thing!! I was so happy when my call sign came in from the FCC and my call was (K17AYZ) ! My dads (K4NEV) call sign was (KC7ZCH) Before I got my ham radio license, I always thought it was cool watching my dad check into nets or talk on the radio and give a call sign whenever talking on the ham radio. GMRS you don't have a give your call sign, so I thought it was really neat to be able to have your own call sign in ham radio. After I got my ham radio license a couple of years later my mom decided to join me and my dad and get her ham radio technician license. Her original was (K17UQR) so now our whole family has a technician license. Last year in 2019 my dad came up with the idea for us to get vanity call signs. My dad saw on the FCC he could pick (K4NEV) and sure enough, he got his first pick so my dad went from his original call sign (KC7ZCH) to (K4NEV). My dad said if I apply I could get K5NEV, so I applied and got K5NEV! my. So after me and my dad got our vanity call signs my mom thought it would be cool to get hers with NEV at the end she applied for K3NEV and got it! I thought it was cool that my Dad (K4NEV) and Mom (K3NEV) and me (K5NEV) all have NEV at the end of our call signs. One thing I really like about ham radio is that you create a lot of new friends and everybody in the hobby is willing to help you in one way or the other. Amateur Radio has really benefited my life in a positive way I think! Amateur radio has even helped me in my career with BLM / BIA Western Nevada agency I am a Radio operator (RADO) for my job and has a volunteer firefighter for Pyramid Lake Fire Rescue. Talking on the ham radio has made me more comfortable talking on the fire radio. Amateur radio has helped me in different classes I have taken like for example, one of the classes I took was the Homeland Security COMT class some of the stuff I learned as a ham radio operator helped in that class. The Homeland security COMT class was a lot of fun and I found my instructor was a ham radio operator his name is Charles (KE4AIE), and he was a great teacher and helpful. Ham radio is a lot of fun and you meet a lot of great people.

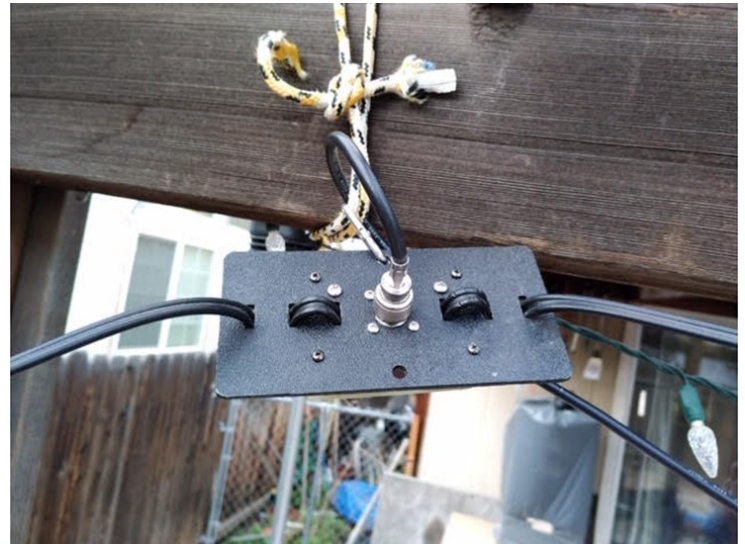


Anytone AT-666 10-Meter radio

My dad has an Anytone AT-6666 10-meter radio and one Saturday we set it up. As a family, we set up the Antenna and it was a lot of fun! We heard on the SNARS noon Net that there is a 10-meter net at 14:00 Pacific time on every Sunday so we as family set up an antenna. We got it ready to go check in to the 10 am net on Sunday and it was a lot of fun! We are able to check-in and able to get our radio dialed in. When my mom checked after, she just wasn't getting in, but Barry (K6ST) picked her up and called on the cell phone. He was able to talk my family into how to adjust the radio to the right frequency. After he did that net control, was able to hear me (K5NEV). My Dad (K4NEV) and my mom (K3NEV) were able to check in to the net control! After doing that net that Sunday it really sparked my interest to work even harder on studying for my General, I am almost halfway through the Gordon west General class book! I really needed that 10-meter net to get my interest started, and get my General because it's one thing studying and reading the book and doing practice tests but it's another thing to hear it on the radio and hearing what HF is like. I know I really want to get my General because it'll give me more privileges and be able to make contacts from far away. It's just like when I was studying for my Technician license back in 2016. I used GMRS to spark my interest in Radio and then when I couldn't get out as far as the local repeaters. I study for my technician license and now as a technician, I used 10 meters to push me to keep studying for the General, so that way I can have more privileges like 40 meters and many more. There are so many people in the ham radio community that are willing to help you with anything you need help with and that's why I like the hobby. I love the hobby of amateur radio, and I am going to try my best to help people in the hobby just as I was helped. Barry (K6ST) is doing a great job trying to get people my age 23 and younger into ham radio. I think that it is really good and important that we keep Amateur Radios going and try to get people interested in the hobby! The best thing about this hobby is you can be any age and you can do it your entire life. Something I recommend is that when you get your ham radio license, you get involved by either doing nets, joining clubs or even participating as net control would be a lot of fun. I have been net for the ERC net ever since I got my technician ticket. I also recommend joining groups like ARES if you're interested in helping out during emergencies, or special events, it's a fun group to belong to.

We are very lucky in Northern Nevada because we have Bill Nichols

(NN7K) and his VE teams always willing to test. I have been really lucky having a dad (K4NEV) that's always helping me and teaching me things like how to check my SWR and how to program radios, and how to do antenna work and teach me how to solder.



The black wire (red Survey ribbon) is one I bought from MFJ.

I've been lucky also with different people in the ham radio community helping my family me with different radio stuff, like for example, K6ST Barry helping my family get our 10-meter radio set to the right frequency. I've been fortunate to have such nice assistance within the radio community. There are great clubs that everyone in each club is willing to help and those clubs are (SNARS) Sierra Nevada amateur radio society and Churchill amateur radio club (CARS). The last thing I'm going to say, is I want to be just like my Dad K4NEV and teach people amateur radio stuff.

73 Brian Cain K5NEV

73,

Barry K6ST
Nevada Section Youth Coordinator
ARRL (American Radio Relay League) arrl.org

TECH COMMITTEE UPDATE

SNARS REPEATER STATUS May 2020

Pat W7DED reports that thanks to "Miracle March" many of our sites are inaccessible. Peavine and Ophir had been drivable, but they are both now snowed in, and he anticipates a busy summer! No changes since last month.



ARES NEWS

ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS EVENTS CALENDAR 2020:

Carson Valley, Tahoe, Reno, Plumas Co.

NOTE: Plumas ARC always have a need for operators. Go over to some beautiful country and help out the Plumas Amateur Radio Club

EVENT 2020	DATE	DATE END	SPONSOR/ORGANIZER	COORDINATOR	CONTACT
Silver State 50/50 race	5/16/20		Silver State Striders	Steve KS6A	ks6a@sbcglobal.net
CERT/ARES Joint Exercise	5/16/20		Washoe CERT	Mike Perry	mperry@washoecounty.us
Indian Valley Century Bicycle Ride	5/24/20		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
Pony Express Re-Ride	6/3/2020	6/13/20	SIERA	Jeff Cauhape K7BCV	j_cauhape@yahoo.com
Lost and Found Gravel Grinder SBTS	6/6/20		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride	6/7/20		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV	wa6ewv@juno.com
Truckee Dirt Fondo Bike Ride	6/13/20		John Prouty; Bike Monkey	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com
Alta Alpina Challenge	6/27/20		Alta Alpina Cycling Club	Jennie Hamiter, KE7YBA	jenniehamiter@mac.com
Death Ride	7/11/20		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV	wa6ewv@juno.com
Tahoe Rim Trail	7/17/20	7/19/19	Tahoe Mountain Milers	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com
Running With the Bears	8/15/20		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
Trailblazer Challenge	8/15/20		Make-A-Wish Foundation	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com
Vegas to Reno Off Road Race	8/12/20	8/15/19	Best in the Desert Racing Assn	Keith KC7HTK	kc7htkeith@hotmail.com
Tour De Tahoe	9/13/20		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV	wa6ewv@juno.com
Reno Air-Races	9/13/20	9/20/19	WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com
Edible Pedal 100	9/20/20		Sunrise Rotary Club	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com
Bear Growl Gravel Grinder	9/12/20		Plumas ARC	KJ6CUG	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
Stetina Paydirt	9/19/20		John Prouty; Bike Monkey	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com
Grinduro SBTS	1/4/20		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
ARES Section Emergency Test (SET)	OCT TBD		Washoe EC	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com
Nevada Day Parade	10/31/20		NV AREA NW DEC	John Abrott KD7NHC	jabrott77@gmail.com , cell 775 790-1739
Sparks Turkey Trot	11/26/20		WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com

WCARES EC-001 On Line Class Spring 2020

The class will run 10 weeks from 1 May to 17 July 2020.

This is an approved ARRL Field Course conducted online and open to Radio Amateurs in the NW Nevada District, comprising the following Nevada Counties: Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Humboldt, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey, and Washoe.

ARRL Field Instructors from the Washoe County Nevada Amateur Radio Emergency Service (WCARES) will conduct the class.

The course employs a combination of on-line independent study (using the Canvas on-line learning platform) and weekly video discussion/question & answer sessions (using the Zoom teleconferencing application). An internet or cellphone connection capable of supporting Zoom conferences is required.

Students need to complete the course prerequisites before

registering. These are two on-line Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) independent study courses ICS-100 and IS-700.

FEMA Course completion certificates or course transcripts are required to take the final exam which will be conducted by ARRL Volunteer Examiners.

To register for the WCARES EC-001 class, send an email to:

Washoe County ARES Emergency Coordinator,
Bob Miller, WA6MTY
WA6MTY@wcares.us
Tel (775) 843-5952
AND
Lead course instructor,
John Mishler, N3JWM
73N3JWM@gmail.com

ARES NEWS Continued on page 13

FUN STUFF FOR MAY

Contests for May: Contest in **BOLD** is the **IMPORTANT** one this month!!! There are three other QSO parties we'll be in competition with. The rest of May? Nothing major. Too bad the powers that be didn't know we'd be in the stay-at-home mode.....

2 May 0001 to 3 May 2359 28 10-10 International Spring Contest, CW
www.ten-ten.org

2 May 1300 to 3 May 0700 1.8-28 7th Call Area QSO Party CW Ph
www.7qp.org

2 May 1500 to 3 May 0300 1.8-28 Indiana QSO Party CW Ph
www.hdxcc.org/inqp

2 May 1700 to 3 May 2359 1.8-VHF Delaware QSO Party CW Ph
www.fsarc.org/qso-party

2 May 2000 to 3 May 2359 3.5-28 New England QSO Party CW Ph Dig
www.neqp.org

9 May 1400 to 10 May 0200 3.5-28, 144 Arkansas QSO Party CW Ph
www.arkqp.com

30 May 0000 to 31 May 2359 1.8-28 CQ WW WPX Contest, CW
www.cqwp.com

See <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2020/May%202020%20Corral.pdf> for a complete list of contests.

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase! Well maybe not so much these days!!! Here's the ENTIRE list of the few DX operations going on in May (and I'd check to see if any actually take place...):

May 04 to May 12	Maldives	8Q7KB
May 07 to May 11	Guernsey	GU75LIB

Check <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> for updates on DXpeditions!

ARES NEWS (continued from page 12)

Last year WC-ARES was invited to bring our communications truck to show it off during "Kids on Big Rigs".

This year I received this email from the coordinators Stacey and Mason Perez:

Upon doing our research and getting tons of input from the public, we have decided to cancel Kids on Big Rigs 2020 due to COVID-19. It has been a tough decision and took us a while to come to, but we think it is for the best for everyone in our community. Please stay tuned as we hope to make 2021 better than ever.

We need your help!!!! Mason and I were brainstorming tonight how we could have done a social distancing approved

Kids on Big Rigs. As we started to imagine all the disappointed faces on the child kiddos and adult kiddos', Mason came up with the idea of a virtual Kids on Big Rigs. We will post a video of a rig or food truck with some fun facts about your rig or truck and a 1 question "quiz" about the fun facts. 1 person with the correct answer on each post will be chosen at random to have their name put into a raffle to win tickets to next year's event.

HERE IS WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU:

1) **RIGS:** a walk around video of your rig (the outside and inside). Maybe honk the horn once or twice and if your rig has some sort of movement or operation, perform that on the video.

FOOD TRUCKS: a walk around video of your food truck (the outside and inside). Maybe honk the horn once or twice and give some information (i.e. Are you open? What are your hours? Where are you located?)

2) some fun facts about the rig or truck (i.e. The dump truck can hold up to 28,000 lbs or the fire truck can hold 1000 gallons of water but more like 3 or 4 facts per truck) and maybe 1 question about the fun facts.

3) a Facebook page link if you have one so we can tag you in your video.

If you can please get us your video and fun facts at your earliest convenience, it would be easier to space out throughout the week and not post everything at the last minute.

So, thanks to Andy KD7ZEV, Bob WA6MTY and Dale K7DNH who created the video for us to send to Stacey.

Check it out! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MkCpWT1XsA>

Also check out:

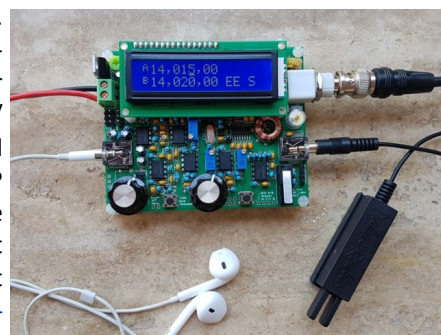
<https://www.facebook.com/KidsOnBigRigs/>

https://www.facebook.com/events/833681487044530/?active_tab=discussion

NAME THAT RIG (from page 7)

QRP Labs, located in Merry Olde Englande, has been in business for about 10 years now. Arguably, their most popular, and most recent standalone product is the QCX transceiver. The QCX comes in kit form, and packs a whole lot of features into a \$49.00 purchase. Designed for the mountaintopper, park denizen, or any other free wandering soul, the QCX is small, lightweight, gives 3-5 watts output depending on the supplied voltage, has built-in alignment tools, a digital display, one VERY sensitive and selective receiver featuring DSP and a 250Hz bandwidth. The QCX has taken the QRP world by storm. While not in the same league as the Elecraft KX3, for example, it carries nowhere near the price. A case is not included in that \$49, but is available separately by other manufacturers. The QCX is available for any single band 80 through 17 meters, and can even function as a WSPR beacon with an optional GPS receiver. The circuit board measures just 4 X 3.2 inches, so the case is not much larger.

The case, available from Bal-MaTech in Germany, goes for about \$35 at the current Euro/dollar rate. Or you can roll your own. There's even a QRP radio event tailored to the QCX, which occurred just last month. You can read all about the QCX at: <http://shop.qrp-labs.com/qcx>.



RENO QRP SLOW SPEED CW NET

NOTE SUMMER TIME CHANGE AT 10:00 AM

Some of our members operate in the field to avoid hot temps. We will start an hour earlier.

Our next NET sessions will be on Tuesday May 5, 2020 . Time is 10:00 AM.

The target frequency is 7.045 MHz if not in use, if busy search somewhere near that frequency.

Some of you may want to try operating in the field I hope you do. You will find it to be a lot of fun.

Let us not forget one of the reasons this NET was started, it was after the hurricane that hit Puerto Rico. They were helpless because the grid went down no one knew where resources were needed the most.

Considering this fact we have the ability with lightweight equipment to provide communications for placing resources where needed.

If you are missing your buddies at the monthly QRP meetings this is a good way to stay in touch, get on the NET either at home or in the field.

- The following should always be in your report:

NAME RST LOCATION RIG POWER ANTENNA.

Don't forget that our goal is to help other OP's with CW.

First Practice sending and receiving CW.

Second Our chance to be on the air with our HAM friends and exchange some information. This should be an enjoyable time for all.

Additional comments are always welcome before I close the NET.

Take this time to report RST for other OP's or anything else that comes to mind.

If your CW is rusty and you want to get on the air operating CW but may be afraid because your sending and copy needs improvement.

You can check into the Reno QRP Slow Speed NET.

This NET is designed to get those wanting to get back on the air using CW. It is a friendly bunch of hams that exchange simple text.

You can and will improve your sending and receiving if that is your true goal.

Because mistakes are a common thing even among the best of CW op's no one should feel bad if their ability is lacking behind.

This is a learning experience along with having fun.

If you are interested you can reach me Ed at wd7y@sbcglobal.net put in the subject bar CW NET and I will get back to you.

That's it for now hope to hear you on the NET

73/72

Ed/WD7Y



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2020, 6:15 PM
Via ZOOM

1. Call to order and roll call at 6:05 PM

Board of Directors:

Anthony Marcin, W7XM	N	Barry Bettman, K6ST	P	John Miller, N7JDM	P
Bill Jones, AE7OX	P	John Byerly, N7ROJ	P	Wes Vick, KG7QXE	P
Jim Shepherd, W6US	P	Doug Edmondo, W7DBE	P		

2. Approval of Minutes - Discussion/Action

A. Agenda approved – noted “Next Meeting” date needed to be changed - completed

3. Approval of Agenda - Discussion/Action

A. Agenda approved – noted “Next Meeting” date needed to be changed - completed

4. Reports

A. President’s Report

a. Thank you to Barry for checking with the Parks Dept on cancellations and refunds. Noting lots of kerchunking on the repeater system.

B. Secretary Report

a. Membership Status – 374 members, 14 new members in the last 60 days.

C. Treasurer

a. Financial Report: Total \$28,613 of which Checking: \$5,329 Savings: \$9,537 Paypal: \$2,105 Conv: \$4,295
Self-Ins: \$7,348
b. Processed 35 renewals

D. Technical Team

a. Nothing to report

E. Control Operators / Trustee

a. Nothing to report

F. Events

a. May BBQ – The board voted and approved cancellation of the event
b. Spring Ham Swap – The board voted and approved cancellation of the event
c. Field Day 2020 – No change for now.

G. Education & Youth Activities

- a. Kid's Day on June 20th is still on
- b. Barry noted the youth net control operators

Noon Net - Noon Net Manager

5. Old Business

- A. Breakfast Meeting Location – Bill put out a suggestion that SNARS pick up the first month breakfast costs for membership appreciation and to build volume.
- B. Members Only Website – No status
- C. By Laws – ready for membership review and vote

6. New Business

- A. Discuss donation to WCARES – The Board voted and approved a \$200 donation.

7. Public Comments - No comments were received

8. Adjournment - Action

- A. Next Meeting: May 13, 2020. Location TBD
- B. Call For Adjournment.